

I did not get notice of this hearing in time to attend but have extreme disappointment that the legislature is considering this restriction on the use of the Willamette river. My family has been responsibly enjoying boating and waterskiing on this segment of the river for over 40 years. We have a 23 foot SeaRay Bowrider to pull waterskiers. We never have wakeboarded as our boat does not make the wake necessary to surf behind. We were very disappointed last season to learn of the restrictions already put on the river for skiing. But we are complying. This new consideration is destructive to the use of this great river. If the concern is safety, I would ask what is the record of mishap and what behavior was causing it. In our 40 years we have not yet encountered a mishap by anyone on the river while using the river for our activities. If the reason is something else, please balance the concern with the impact of the remedy. This legislation would significantly hurt the businesses and residents that have the river as an important part of their livelihoods. Portland's brand has been severely damaged in the past 12 months. We need to be restoring the attractions of Portland, not further hurting its reputation. Thanks for considering my concerns. Gary